

Maj. Gen. Tom Katkus  
Commissioner/  
Adjutant General  
P.O. Box 112500  
Juneau, AK 99811-2500  
www.dmva.alaska.gov



Office of Public Affairs  
Main: 907-428-6031  
mvapublicaffairs@alaska.gov  
PO Box 5800, Camp Denali  
Ft Richardson, Alaska 99505-5800

## PRESS RELEASE

Alaska National Guard

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 27, 2014**

### **Alaska Military Youth Academy to graduate 137 cadets**

**CAMP DENALI, Alaska** – The Alaska Military Youth Academy will celebrate the graduation of 137 cadets of Class 2014-1 from its ChalleNGe program Friday, Feb. 28.

The 10 a.m. graduation ceremony will be held in the Idlughet Room (Exhibit Hall) at the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center located in downtown Anchorage. The guest speaker for the graduation is Brig. Gen. (select) Timothy O'Brien, assistant adjutant general – Air, Joint Forces Headquarters and commander of the Alaska Air National Guard.

During their 22-week residential phase at the AMYA ChalleNGe program, the corps of cadets focused on academics, military style discipline, physical fitness, vocational training and service to the community. The 137 cadets set to graduate from the Alaska Military Youth Academy will join the 4,128 previous graduates since 1994.

Upon graduation, cadets take part in the yearlong post-residential phase where graduates return to their communities to enter the workplace, continue their education (high school, college or vocational schools) or enter the military. The goal of this phase is for graduates to sustain and build on the gains made during the residential phase.

The Alaska Military Youth Academy continues to help intervene in and reclaim the lives of youth and produce program graduates with the values, skills, education and self-discipline necessary to succeed as adults.

**Who:** Alaska Military Youth Academy  
**What:** Graduation ceremony for 137 cadets  
**Where:** Idlughet Room (Exhibit Hall), Dena'ina Center, 600 W. 7th Ave., Anchorage  
**When:** Friday, Feb. 28, 10 a.m.

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